

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:DJOHNSON:JF

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 114185

FROM ANDREWS FOR WORTZEL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. THE DUAL NATIONAL CABLE SHOULD HAVE REACHED YOU BY NOW. IT TOOK MORE THAN A WEEK FROM DRAFTING TO TRANSMISSION. ON NAMIBIA, IO IS DOING AN UPDATE WHICH CAN BE USED FOR BRIEFING THE YUGOSLAVS. DARRYL WILL BRING THAT ON THE WEEKEND, IF ITS CLEARED IN TIME. HE WILL ALSO BE CARRYING THE PACKAGE OF MATERIALS FROM EXIM, AND ANOTHER BUNDLE ON DUEL NATIONALS/CONSULAR CONVENTION FROM L. IF THERE ARE OTHER THINGS YOU WOULD LIKE HIM TO BRING, PLEASE LET US KNOW.

2. HARRY DUNLOP IS SPENDING SOME TIME ON THE DESK AND AT FSI THIS MONTH IN PREPARATION FOR HIS IMPENDING ASSIGNMENT. WE HAVE HIM HARD AT WORK, AND HE WILL BE HELPING SAM DURING DARRYL'S ABSENCE.

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3. SCHMIDT VISIT - REGARDING BELGRADE 3253, CARL WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO STAY WITH YOU. HE'LL PLAN TO TAKE A TAXI FROM THE AIRPORT TO YOUR HOME ON MAY 6.

4. JOHN O'KEEFE HAS BEEN APPROACHED ABOUT BEING TREASURER OF THE SCHOOL BOARD, AND ACCEPTS WILLINGLY. HE EXPECTS TO ARRIVE IN BELGRADE ABOUT MAY 23.

5. ON THE MATTER OF COL. SCHWARTZ, WE TALKED WITH HIM AND WITH JENKINS AND ASSUME THAT THEY FINALLY GOT TOGETHER TO WORK OUT TRANSPORTATION ARRANGEMENTS.

6. UNITED WOOD PRODUCTS VISA PROBLEM - MATIC CAME IN ON WEDNESDAY TO REPORT "UNOFFICIALLY" ON THEIR CONCERN OVER HANDLING OF YUGOSLAV WORKERS FROM UNITED WOOD PRODUCTS. HE CLAIMED THAT INS INSPECTOR HAD ORDERED THE THREE TO APPEAR AT HEARING DIRECTLY FROM WORKPLACE, HAD QUESTIONED THEM ON POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND WHAT THEY DO IN SPARE TIME, AND HAD ORDERED THEIR DEPORTATION. EMBASSY HAD EXPECTED, MATIC SAID, THAT BELOVSKI'S COMMENTS TO VEST WOULD HAVE BEEN SUFFICIENT TO SOLVE PROBLEM. WE EXPLAINED THAT PROBLEM WAS NOT ONE WHICH STATE COULD "SOLVE", SINCE IT WAS AN INS DETERMINATION WHETHER FACTS OF CASE JUSTIFIED TREATY TRADE STATUS. AS FOR DEPORTATION DECISION, WE ASSURED MATIC THERE WAS NO INTENT TO DEPORT AND PROMISED TO CHECK AGAIN WITH INS. INS TODAY CONFIRMED THAT DECISION HAS NOT YET BEEN TAKEN ON THEIR STATUS, AND THAT THERE WILL BE NO DEPORTATION ORDERED EVEN IF FINDING IS AGAINST THEM. INS WAS SURPRISED BY THE REPORT OF "UNUSUAL TREATMENT" OF THE THREE, BUT PROMISED TO REVIEW AND HANDLE CASE WITH SENSITIVITY TO YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT CONCERNS. WE HAVE REASSURED KULISIC ABOUT STATUS OF CASE AND QUESTION OF DEPORTATION.

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7. TEXTILE NEGOTIATIONS - FOLLOWING IS BRIEF SUMMARY OF TODAY'S NEGOTIATIONS: YUGOSLAVS INSISTED THAT 97,000 SUITS FOR 1978 HAD TO BE BASIS FOR SETTLEMENT. US SIDE HAS PROPOSED A THREE-YEAR AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD COVER BOTH WOOLEN AND MAN-MADE FIBER SUITS AND WHICH MIGHT PROVIDE MORE FLEXIBILITY TO YUGOSLAVS WHILE GIVING US THE OPTICS REQUIRED VIS-A-VIS LABOR UNIONS. THEREFORE, NO PROSPECTS FOR GROWTH BEYOND THE 97,000, BUT IF WE CAN ACCEPT THIS FIGURE FOR 1978, I THINK AGREEMENT IS POSSIBLE. CHRISTOPHER

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